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JAN 24 2007

Docket No. PUR-020  
Serial No. 10/735,352

PATENT APPLICATION

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 28, 36 and 51 as follows (a complete listing of the claims is provided below pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121):

Claim 1. (Cancelled).

1           2. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim  
2         28, further comprising the step of anchoring the group of filaments at or near a proximal  
3         end of the core member before winding the group of filaments onto the core member.

1           3. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim 2,  
2         wherein the group of filaments is wound onto the core member continuously from the  
3         proximal end of the core member to a distal end thereof and then back to the proximal  
4         end.

Claim 4. (Cancelled).

1           5. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim  
2         28, wherein the core member is a mandrel on which the catheter is formed.

1           6. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim  
2         28, wherein the core member is a substrate that forms an inner lining of the catheter.

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Claims 7 to 23. (Cancelled).

1           24. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim  
2         28, wherein said group of filaments are wound with a variable pitch such that a filament  
3         group spacing at a distal end of the core member is narrower than a filament group  
4         spacing at a proximal end of the core member.

Claims 25 to 27. (Cancelled).

1           28. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catheter, comprising the steps  
2         of:  
3           winding a filament onto a core member while rotating the core member relative to  
4         a filament source and passing the filament source in a first direction of axial movement  
5         relative to the core member; and  
6           reversing a direction of axial movement of the filament source while continuing to  
7         wind the filament onto the core member, whereby the filament is continuously wound  
8         onto the core member to form a first fibrous layer as the filament source is moved relative  
9         to the core member from a first axial position to a second axial position and then back to  
10       the first axial position;  
11           wherein said step of winding a filament comprises winding a group of filaments

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12 simultaneously;

13 further comprising the step of providing a guide assembly having a filament

14 engaging surface, and arranging said guide assembly such that the filament engaging

15 surface lies in a plane which is generally perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the core

16 member, whereby the guide assembly causes the filaments within said group of filaments

17 to be positioned side-by-side and packed tightly against one another as the group of

18 filaments are wound onto the core member; and

19 further comprising the step of passing the group of filaments through the guide

20 assembly to arrange orient the group of filaments into the plane which is generally

21 perpendicular to the longitudinal axis of the core member; and to cause causing the

22 filaments to be positioned side-by-side naturally reoriented into a plane which is generally

23 parallel to the longitudinal axis of the core member and packed tightly against one

24 another as the group of filaments are wound onto the core member.

1 29. (Original) The method of making a catheter according to claim 28, further  
2 comprising the step of varying a rotation speed of the core member or a translation speed  
3 of the filament source along the core member to vary a pitch of the group of filaments  
4 being wound onto the core member.

Claim 30. (Cancelled).

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1           31. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim  
2         36, further comprising the step of varying a rotation speed of the core member or a  
3         translation speed of the source of filaments along the core member to vary a pitch of the  
4         group of filaments being wound onto the core member.

1           32. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim  
2         36, wherein said group of filaments are wound with a variable pitch such that a filament  
3         group spacing at a distal end of the core member is narrower than a filament group  
4         spacing at a proximal end of the core member.

Claims 33 to 35. (Cancelled).

1           36. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catheter, comprising the steps  
2         of:  
3           winding a group of filaments simultaneously onto a core member while rotating  
4         the core member relative to a source of said filaments and passing the source of filaments  
5         in a first direction of axial movement relative to the core member;  
6           providing a guide assembly having a filament engaging surface, and arranging  
7         said guide assembly such that the filament engaging surface lies in a plane which is  
8         perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the core member, whereby the guide assembly  
9         causes the filaments within said group of filaments to be positioned side-by-side and

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10 packed tightly against one another as the group of filaments are wound onto the core  
11 member; and  
12 passing the group of filaments through the guide assembly to arrange orient the  
13 group of filaments into the plane which is generally perpendicular to the longitudinal axis  
14 of the core member; and to cause causing the filaments to be positioned side-by-side  
15 naturally reoriented into a plane which is generally parallel to the longitudinal axis of the  
16 core member and packed tightly against one another as the group of filaments are wound  
17 onto the core member.

1 37. (Previously Presented) The method of making a catheter according to claim  
2 36, further comprising the step of reversing a direction of axial movement of the source  
3 of filaments relative to the core member while continuing to wind the group of filaments  
4 onto the core member, whereby the filaments are continuously wound onto the core  
5 member as the source of filaments is moved relative to the core member from a first axial  
6 position to a second axial position and then back to the first axial position.

Claims 38 to 50. (Cancelled).

1 51. (Currently Amended) A method of making a catheter, comprising the steps  
2 of:  
3 anchoring a group of filaments to a core member at a proximal end of the catheter;

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4           winding the group of filaments simultaneously onto the core member while  
5       rotating the core member relative to a filament source and passing the filament source in a  
6       first direction of axial movement relative to the core member toward a distal end of the  
7       catheter; and

8           reversing a direction of axial movement of the filament source while continuing to  
9       wind the group of filaments simultaneously onto the core member, whereby the group of  
10      filaments are continuously wound onto the core member to form a fibrous layer as the  
11      filament source is moved relative to the core member from the proximal end to the distal  
12      end and then back to the proximal end;

13           further comprising the step of passing the group of filaments through a guide  
14       assembly to arrange orient the group of filaments into a plane which is generally  
15       perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the core member; and to cause causing the  
16       filaments to be positioned side-by-side naturally reoriented into a plane which is generally  
17       parallel to the longitudinal axis of the core member and packed tightly against one  
18       another as the group of filaments are wound onto the core member.